

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

### PROVISIONAL APPLICATION

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# METHOD FOR INTERGRATING DRAWINGS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS USING GRAPHIC OBJECT INTERFACE

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## ETHOD FOR INTERGRATING DRAWINGS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS USING GRAPHIC OBJECT INTERFACE

The present invention relates to the field of drawings, schematics or plans and the integration of supporting documents within those drawings, inside of a computer program by use of links known as a Graphic Object Interface [GOI].

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS:

Preferred embodiments of the invention are described below with reference to the following accompanying drawings

- Fig. 1- Represents a generic flow chart depicting how job plan sheets, specifications. Spreadsheet data, and plans are inter-connected through linked GOI modules.
- Fig. 2- Represents a generic flow chart of plans and specifications related GOI module and the related inter-linked data of the GOI module.
- Fig. 3- Represents a generic view of a startup screen when program is loaded and the options available
- Fig. 4- Represents a generic view of a typical GOI screen menu with data links and highlighted bookmarks to data.
- Fig. 5- Represents a generic view of an equipment schedule representation for components to be installed as accessed from GOI link (A) in Fig. 4.
- Fig. 6- Represents a view of location drawings (plans and section representations) for items to be installed as accessed from GOI link (B) shown in Fig. 4.

TECHNICAL FIELD:

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Fig. 7- Represents a view of specifications of that component as accessed from GOI link (C) shown in Fig. 4.

Fig. 8- is a view of a catalog representation of the actual items to be installed and the specific location as accessed from GOI link (D) shown in Fig. 4.

Fig. 9- is a view of a Maintenance & Operation Manual. Listing all of the parts and the basic trouble-shooting guide of the item as accessed from GOI link (E) shown in Fig. 4.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERED EMBODIMENTS

Referring in greater detail to the drawings, a presently preferred form of the apparatus utilizes the integration of computerized Graphic Objects as linked through a Graphic Object Interface (GOI) with associated database programs in the total management of any representation of the graphic objects. This includes but is not limited to finished construction project management for all commercial applications. i.e. construction trades, automotive assembly, and equipment manufacturing etc.

Graphic Objects are comprised of a graphic representation of the object to be constructed, or a part of the object to be constructed which may be in a computerized format or not. If the graphic used is non-computerized, then the graphic is converted through scanning, digital photography, or movies into one of any commonly used consumer computer graphic formats. Such formats include but are not limited to JPEG, MPEG, DVD, GIF, BMP, PCX, TIFF, TIFF-M and PNG or other computer operating system compatible graphics formats.

Database programs utilized with this apparatus integrate single or multiple commonly utilized consumer or vendor required programs that encompass all data required for the installation, maintenance, operation, and repair of a specific Graphic

Object representation. Single or multiple databases are organized into modules containing a single Graphic Object specific to the overall project being managed. The GOI may contain more than one module, which constitutes a single graphic object within the graphic interface. The database may be specifically linked through the GOI to one or more modules within the project or the entire project. The effect of the connection of the database(s) to a graphic object representation is to create a spider web of interrelated links (Fig. 1, Fig. 2) within a single project to allow the project supervisor or owner to effectively manage all aspects of the project from a desktop or laptop computer.

Common database programs utilized by consumers or vendors include but are not limited to Adobe Acrobat, Excel Spreadsheet, or any other portable document formats.

It is a preferred embodiment of this apparatus that internet web links, diagnostic and repair programs, database maintenance scheduling program, and/or adjusting maintenance programs may also be linked via the GOI in the same manner as the database(s) are linked above to a specific graphic object representation by utilizing any computerized network configuration.

For illustrative purposes Adobe Acrobat, Microsoft Word and Excel, database management programs are used with TIF graphic object representations that are converted to PDF files. The start of the management program generates a screen with one or more GOI's. (Fig. 3) Upon accessing one section through the GOI, the user selects desired bookmark on left hand side. (Fig. 4) The selection of bookmark directs user to the desired module containing the required graphic object representation menu. (Fig. 5 – Fig. 9) The graphic object representation for the attached application is the Air handler. By Clicking return to AH-1 Menu, a menu appears. This menu displays the

associated GOI links positioned on the menu relevant to graphic object that it represents. Here is the explanation of those GOI Links (Fig. 4).

- Note (A) Link to "Schedule" of events for installation of air handler unit strictly as a graphic object.
- Note (B) Link to "Plans" related to the location and placement of air handler unit in the building (Right hand side of Figure 6) with associated links to database information about the plan.
- Note (C) Link to "Specifications" data for the air handler unit with GOI Link back to the common Menu (Fig. 4).
- Note (D) Link to "Submittal" of catalogue representation & information on all handler unit with GOI Link to Fig.4.
- Note (E) Link to "Operation & Maintenance Manual" data for air handle catalogue representation & information on air handler unit with GOI Link to Fig.4.
- Note (F) Link to "Details" containing other related data specific to air handler unit. installation
- Note (G) Link to "Section" information on the individual components of the air handler unit, .section as drawn in a section of the building.
- Note (H) Link to Vendor Supplied Diagnostic Program or URL Link for this specific equipment to check setup and functioning of air handler unit.

On the left hand side of the menu is a bookmarks section and links to other menus & and their associated links. Upon selecting a GOI, another representation of the graphic object or associated database/ project management information is displayed. (Fig. 4) The exponential ability of this program to manage multi-levels of GOI's is only limited by the capacity of the data storage device used.